Effect of Ayodhya incident on Indo-Pak talks

†408. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that before embarking on foreign visit on 6th July, 2005 the Prime Minister in his interview given to print media warned that it is proved that Pakistan terrorists were involved in attack in Ayodhya than the peace talk being held between two countries may be adversely affected; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government have always made it clear that the India-Pakistan peace process can be sustained only in an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence and is critically dependent on the fulfilment of the January 6, 2004 commitment of President Musharraf not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. Major incidents, like the recent attack at Ayodhya, if repeated, have the potential to disrupt this process.

New schemes for Labour Class

†409. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 64 per cent of labour class retire prematurely due to health related reasons;

(b) if not, the assessment of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme at national level to overcome the weakness of the labour class; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Data in this matter is not centrally maintained.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) An unemployment allowance scheme called the Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana has been launched by the Employees State Insurance Corporation from 1st April, 2005. An insured person going out of insurable employment in voluntarily on or after 1st April, 2005 on account of closure of a factory or establishment, retrenchment, or permanent invalidity arising out of non-employment injury, after being in an insurable employment and contributed under the scheme for five or more years, shall be entitled to claim unemployment allownace for a maximum period of 6 months during his/her entire service. During the period for which a person is entitled for unemployment allowance, he shall also be eligible for medical care for himself and his/her family from the ESI Dispensaries.

Growth rate of job seekers

†410. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that total number of unemployed youths rose from 13.8 million to 44.5 million from 1991 to 2001 in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that annual growth rate for creation of new employment opportunities also remained low during the said period; and

(d) if so, what was that rate and annual growth rate of job seekers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per the information available from 1991 and 2001 census, number of persons seeking/available for work (among the non-workers) in the country excluding Jammu & Kashmir has gone up from 13.8 million in 1991 to 44.5 million in 2001. However, the census does not have a precise definition of unemployment. Non-workers seeking/available for work as a category may not necessarily correspond to the definition of unemployment.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.